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KIRGIZ COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS STRIVE TO FULFILL POSTWAR FIVE-YEAR PLAN

I. Novikov

While fulfilling the postwar Five-Year Plan, the communications workers of Kirov's SSR have not only attained but, according to a number of very important indices, have exceeded the prewar level.

Since 1940, 15 new rayon offices have been opened; 23 communications stations have been added: a new automatic telephone exchange in the city of Frunze, and 22 telephone exchanges in other city and rayon centers of the Republic. In addition, seven sovkhoses, 21 machine and tractor stations, and 44 village soviets have been equipped with telephone systems. The number of telephones has increased almost 50 percent. A bronze mic circuit has been installed between Frunze and Marya, and 24 radio centers have been set up.

Post office, telegraph, telephone, and radio services have been increased many times. The number of letters posted in the Republic has been three times greater and the number of money orders received and paid five times greater in 1948 than in 1940. Newspaper and magazine circulation has increased 54 percent, and telegraphic communication more than three times. Twice as many telephone calls were carried on the main, inter-oblast, and intra-rayon lines as before World War II.

These figures testify to the continued growth of the economy and culture of Soviet Kirgizia. At the beginning of 1948, Kirgiz communications installations were technically better equipped than they had been before World War II. There was a significant increase in transport of mail by automobile and air, which is especially important to this Republic, the greater part of which is mountains. Mail trucks now make daily runs along all the motor highways. Flances carrying mail from Frunze to Osh and Erzhevalsk made 466 trips during the year. More than 80 percent of the money orders were delivered to homes of the recipients. The widespread popularisation of services provided the

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population by communications agencies has contributed to an annual 4-million-ruble increase in postal revenue.

Workers in electrical communications have also achieved great successes. They have cut transmission time of telegrams in half and stepped up the speed of delivery. The coefficient of utilization of first- and second-class circuits in intercity telephone exchanges has been increased. Main line and intra-oblast radio communications workers have exceeded their task. Great radio centers have been set up in Molotovskiy and Chirchikskiy Rayons, and many radio centers have been modernized. The plan for increasing radio receiving sets was fulfilled 165 percent for the Republic as a whole, 240 percent for Tyan-Shan' Oblast, and 459 percent for Dzhalal-Abad Oblast.

The leaders among communications workers are successfully increasing labor productivity. Average fulfillment of production norms in 1947 by telegraph operators using Randot transmitters reached 135.2 percent, while that of Morse operators reached 125 percent. These accomplishments are the result of systematically raising the technical qualifications of telegraph workers.

However, coincident with great successes, there were a few defects in the work of the communications enterprises of Kirgiz SSR. Maintenance of postal services and rates has not yet been fully assured. The plan for equipping village soviets with telephones has not been fulfilled. The workers of the Union presses and post offices have not been able to attain full circulation of Republic and local periodical publications, even though there is a great demand for them in the Republic. Cases of stupid garbles in telegrams have been observed. Labor turnover has been very harmful; during the year there was a 30-40-percent personnel replacement in many institutions and enterprises.

It is impossible to excuse the delay in shifting many communications workers to the production quotas established by the Ministry of Communications. The very slight regard of a number of directors of communications enterprises, Party organizations, and professional communications organizations for increasing the ideological and political level of communications workers must also be noted.

In 1948, Kirgiz communications workers concentrated their attention on the solution of the problem raised by Ministry of Communications Order No 75. The further development of communications is being accompanied by strenuous efforts toward qualitative indices. The striving of the communications workers collective of the Republic to attain a high quality of work can be illustrated by many examples.

Carrying mail on the roads and maintenance of postal services have increased significantly. New lines of communication have been opened in Issyk-Kul' and Dzhalal-Abad Oblasts. Transmission of telegrams is five times faster than it was in the fourth quarter of 1947, and the speed of mail delivery has been doubled. Defects in radio communications and intercity telephone communications have been reduced. Technical shutdowns in radio communications have been reduced by more than four times, lost time in radio centers two times.

In the first quarter of 1948, the plan for an increase in city telephones was fulfilled 105 percent, and the plan for radio receiving sets in the villages 195 percent. A new telephone exchange began operations in Talass Oblast. Further technical improvement in telegraphic apparatus is being made in Frunze. Here, the local group has carried out major repairs on motor batteries, has reconstructed generators, has assembled tables for ST-35 equipment, and has increased the number of trunk circuits between city telephone exchanges.

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The effectively organized mass work among postal workers must be noted. It was initiated with a study of the experience of kolkhoz mailmen and their daily delivery of newspapers, magazines, and bulk literature. In progressive Kaganovichskiy Rayon, an open meeting of the rayon soviet was held. At this meeting, the audience heard an interesting account by the kolkhoz mailman, Ivkin, of his 18 years' experience. The audience then turned to the kolkhoz administrators, the directors of rayon organizations, and the chiefs of the communications office with concrete suggestions for improving the work of the kolkhoz mailmen of the Republic by giving them saddle horses, horse-drawn carts, etc.

Meetings of postal communications workers are taking place in all the rayons of the Republic. Their goal is to bring postal communications closer to the people, to make it more flexible, and thus to give real assistance to the kolkhozes and to the kolkhoz farmers in their drive for bigger harvests.

In the third, decisive year of the postwar Five-Year Plan, the daily movement of mail to all the rayon centers of the Republic must be assured; control rates must be maintained for the delivery of letters, and the drive to maintain the monetary volume and other values must be intensified. These are the tasks of the postal workers.

Electrical communications workers face a task of equal complexity. They must attain greater audibility during conversations on main line and intra-rayon lines of communication. The quality of work of the radio centers must be further improved; idle time must be lowered to the minimum; defects in main line and subscriber service must be eliminated. With an increase in the installation of radices in kolkhozes and sovkhoses, the indices of the Five-Year Plan for this activity can be fulfilled during 1948. First-rate maintenance of the equipment of lines of communication must be achieved; defects in cable-line installations must not be tolerated; and technical servicing operations and quality of repair must be improved.

The successful solution of these problems depends to a large extent on the further development of socialist competition and the Stakhanovite movement. Special attention must be paid to publicizing competition and to the utilization for this purpose of the local press, of general assemblies, and of production conferences of communications workers.

The qualifications of communications workers in every office and enterprise must be increased by putting a stop to labor turnover. This work must be accompanied by the introduction of new production norms for telegraph mechanics, telegraph operators, and other workers. Standard labor organization cards, similar to the cards used in the administration of communications, must be developed for all workers of leading professions.

A conference of Republic party men among the communications workers, held in the city of Frunze, accepted the challenge of the Leningrad communications workers to guarantee fulfillment of the postwar Five-Year Plan in 4 years. If the Kirgiz communications workers are to realize this grave and honorable obligation, they must work especially hard during 1948.

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